



Court Interpreter Update

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Reminder 2006 Grant Reports Due 7/10/07

Reporting forms can be obtained by contacting the Division of State Court Administration.

Spanish Practice Oral Exam Kits Now Available to Prepare for Certification!

Requests for kits should be directed to Adrienne Meiring at the Division of State Court Administration.

Register for Interpreter Orientation October 17-18, 2007 in Lake County

Learn more about becoming a certified court interpreter

2007 Grant Distributions

The Indiana Supreme Court awarded \$168,250 in 2007 Court Interpreter Grants to be used in 40 counties. This year the Supreme Court received 36 applications, including two that involved multi-county blocks.

The 2007 Grants will benefit litigants in the following counties: Allen, Brown, Cass, Clark, Clinton, Dearborn, Decatur, Delaware, Dubois, Elkhart, Floyd, Grant, Hancock, Hamilton, Hendricks, Howard, Jasper, Jay, Jennings, Johnson, Knox, Lake, LaPorte, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Monroe, Montgomery, Porter, Rush, Shelby, Starke, Steuben, Tippecanoe, Union, Vanderburgh, Vigo, Wabash, Warrick, and Wayne.

Awards ranged from \$250 to \$30,000 and were given based on need, use of certified interpreters, and demonstrated dedication to improving foreign language services in the courts. Additionally, grant recipients promised to complete a report at the end of the grant period in June 2008.

A New Look for the Certified Interpreter Registry



Come see the new [certified interpreter registry](#)!

In an effort to make the certified interpreter registry even more user friendly, the Division of State Court Administration has redesigned the registry web page. Now those seeking interpretation services can select their county's district (as pictured to the left) to find a listing of all certified court interpreters in their area. In addition, the subdirectory provides contact information, bios, and availability status for listed interpreters.

Did you know . . .

When General Motors introduced the Chevy Nova to Latin American markets, executives couldn't understand why the car wasn't selling well until they were told that "no va" in Spanish means "it doesn't go."

Contact Us

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Certification Program Heads to Lake County



Continuing the Indiana Supreme Court's effort to improve the quality of foreign language interpretation across the state, the Division of State Court Administration will begin the next session of the Court Interpreter Certification Program in Lake County.

The Program starts with a two-day orientation scheduled for October 17-18, 2007 at the Lake County Government Center in Crown Point. Instruction, materials and lunch will be provided. The cost for orientation is \$75.00.

Interpreter candidates then will return to the Courthouse on December 7, 2007 to take a written exam that tests general English vocabulary, court-related terms and usage, and interpreter ethics. Candidates obtaining a score of 80% or better on the exam will then be invited to take a two-day skills-building workshop in Indianapolis at a fee of \$75.00.

The skills-building workshop allows candidates to practice and receive feedback regarding skills on the three areas of interpretation tested during the oral exam: sight translation, consecutive interpreting, and simultaneous interpretation. Instruction, materials, lunch, and a mock exam are provided during the workshop.

After attending Skills-Building, candidates will sit for oral exams in March 2008. To become certified, candidates must score 70% or better on all three components of the oral exam.

Please encourage anyone interested to visit the [Indiana Court Interpreter Certification Program](#) web site and to [register](#) for the next session!

Legal & Legislative Updates

Arrieta v. State, 856 N.E.2d 1286 (Ind. Ct. App. 2006)(Baker, J.) - The Court of Appeals ruled that a non-English-speaking defendant was not entitled to the appointment of an interpreter at government expense when the defendant failed to establish he was indigent. The Indiana Supreme Court granted transfer and heard [oral argument](#) in April 2007.



Nur v. State, ___N.E.2d ___ (Ind. Ct. App., June 6, 2007) (Crone, J.) - A Somali-speaking defendant was not entitled to a new trial based upon the trial court's failure to appoint an interpreter when the defendant never requested an interpreter and the record did not reflect that he had a significant language difficulty. The Court of Appeals ruled that whenever a trial court is put on notice that a defendant manifests a significant language difficulty or the defendant specifically requests an interpreter, the court must determine whether an interpreter is needed to protect the defendant's due process rights. In making this decision, a trial court should evaluate the defendant's understanding of spoken and written English, the complexity of the proceedings, issues, and testimony, and whether, considering those factors, the defendant will be able to participate effectively in his defense.